

Testimony of Pam Stout
Resident of Boundary County & Founding
member of Friends of Idaho.

Our Founders, in the Constitution, guaranteed that each new state would be admitted to the Union on an equal footing to the original 13 states.

Today, that promise has been broken. The Western States are not on an equal footing with all other states. They do not control ^{or have title to} all the lands within their borders. They are being discriminated against every day with the funding for schools and infrastructure falling on a small number of private land owners.

We are a state of vast resources and it is imperative that we are able to use those resources. The Forest Service burns marketable timber because it has become a fire danger. We must allow Idahoans to utilize their resources. Using, not destroying, an asset that can provide income for now and for future generations.

I respectfully ask that you ~~to~~ take the actions that will place Idaho on an equal footing with the Eastern States.

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